

Catholic Charities of Central New Mexico

Organization Description

Catholic Charities of Central New Mexico provides a wide array of services to those in need, including counseling, housing, employment, and family support. Catholic Charities is the lead agency for the Stone Soup Collaborative, a joint effort to network and build capacity of faith-based and community organizations in New Mexico. The project is a joint effort of six organizations that have expertise in both funding and providing direct service to various populations in need.

Project Description

Catholic Charities intends to organize smaller faith-based and community organizations into regional networks for sharing resources and expertise with each other. The project is called Stone Soup Collaborative because all organizations are supposed to throw something in the pot. Catholic Charities and its partners will then provide training and technical assistance through these networks. The goal is to build capacity in these smaller organizations to effectively respond to critical human need in their communities. They will also provide sub-awards to regional collaborative projects on a competitive basis.

Geographic Scope of Project

Central and Northern New Mexico

Partnering Organizations

The following organizations have joined with Catholic Charities for the Stone Soup Collaborative project:

- New Mexico Association of Food Banks
- New Mexico Conference of Churches
- Catholic Charities of Gallup
- Jewish Family Service
- Archdiocese of Santa Fe Pastoral Outreach Ministry

Sub-Awards

Catholic Charities and its partners intend to grant the sub-awards to collaborative projects designed by the regional networks. Priority will be given to projects addressing the most urgent needs as defined by the local community. Catholic Charities will grant \$120,000 in sub-awards in the first year. They plan on making up to 16 sub-awards per year, four per region.

Project Objectives

1. To establish four regional networks in New Mexico for delivering services.
2. To provide technical assistance to strengthen smaller organizations in their basic infrastructure and their service delivery capacity.
3. To grant sub-awards to assist smaller organizations with funds for start-up, operations, and expansion of promising services.

Project Strategies

- Organize and train regional networks, annual summit and quarterly training forums.
- Grant sub-awards to regional collaborative projects.
- Provide technical assistance to strengthen smaller organizations in needs assessment, planning, legal assistance, board development, financial management, grant writing, outcome measures, best practices, public relations, volunteers, program management, forming strategic alliances.
- Peer mentoring to assist smaller organizations.

Grant Award Amount

\$1,000,000

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